(3) Assistance for Large Revenue generating projects

Government of Tamil Nadu has also been requested to formulate necessary proposals for development of Kanyakumari as a major tourist destination. It has also been decided to improve tourism-related infrastructure in Kanchipuram.

After detailed discussions and spot inspections held recently at Kanyakumari and neighbouring areas, following decisions have been taken for improvement at Kanyakumari and neighbouring areas:

(a) Protection of the Rock under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958

(b) Illumination of the Rock Memorial

(c) Setting up of suitable accommodation

(d) Organising a Cultural Function

(e) Improvement of Vattakottai Fort

(f) Improvement of beaches at Muttom, Thekkurichi, Trengapattinam, Sanguthurai and Sothavilal

Similarly after inspection of works at Kanchipuram it has been decided to take up road works at an approximate cost of Rs. 2.6 crores within the Township.

(c) *Does not arise.*

Short route for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra

†*29. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand has been made with the Chinese Government for opening short and self-route for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra;

(b) whether any agreement or discussion with regard to increase the number of pilgrims and to provide the facilities to them have taken place during the Prime Minister's visit to China;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, by when the decision about short route and to increase the number of Pilgrims will be effective; and

(d) if not, the details of the obstruction?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (d) The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra along the traditional route across Lipulekh Pass in Pithoragarh District of Uttaranchal is coordinated by the Ministry of External Affairs and conducted with the assistance of various Central and State Government agencies.

Government of India proposed to the Chinese side on several occasions alternate route to Kailash Mansarovar through Demchok in Jammu and Kashmir and Shipki La in Himachal Pradesh. The Chinese side had conveyed that it would not be feasible to open an alternate route through Demchok or Shipki La on account of poor road conditions, frequent land slides, high altitudes and lack of infrastructure in that uninhabited remote region of Tibet.

Government receives suggestions from time to time from different quarters from improving facilities for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra. Suggestions for improvement on the Chinese side are discussed with the latter and include improvements in medical, transportation, accommodation and cooking facilities. During consultations in August 2002, the Chinese side agreed to increase the maximum number of yatris per year to 704 from 560 previously.

During Prime Minister's visit to China in June, 2003, the issue of upgradation of facilities and additional routes for the Yatra was discussed with the Chinese side. The Chinese side conveyed that they would consider the request according to conditions in Tibet.

Doctoring of balance sheets by IA and AAI

*30. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG has observed that the Indian Airlines and Airports Authority of India are doctoring their balance sheets for the year 2001-02;